

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 31st Year

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High-level ARRL official to attend two Wisconsin events

David Sumner, K1ZZ, Executive Vice President of the ARRL, will spend a few days in Wisconsin in April.



Sumner will be present at AES Superfest in Milwaukee (event dates April 7 and 8) and at the Madison Swapfest in Stoughton April 9. The Madison Swapfest is sponsored by the Madison Area Repeater Association.

Sumner's appearance in Wisconsin will be just prior to effective date of the FCC's restructuring of the Amateur Radio Service, April 15.

It is expected that K1ZZ will address those present at those events about restructuring and other topics of immediate concern to the amateur radio service. □



FCC affirms \$20,000 fine; unlicensed operation continues

The FCC has affirmed a \$20,000 fine levied on a Florida man last summer for unlicensed operation, willful and malicious interference with Amateur Radio communications, and failure to let the FCC inspect his radio equipment. The FCC's January 28 Forfeiture Order gives William Flippo of Jupiter 30 days to pay up or the matter will be referred to the US Attorney.

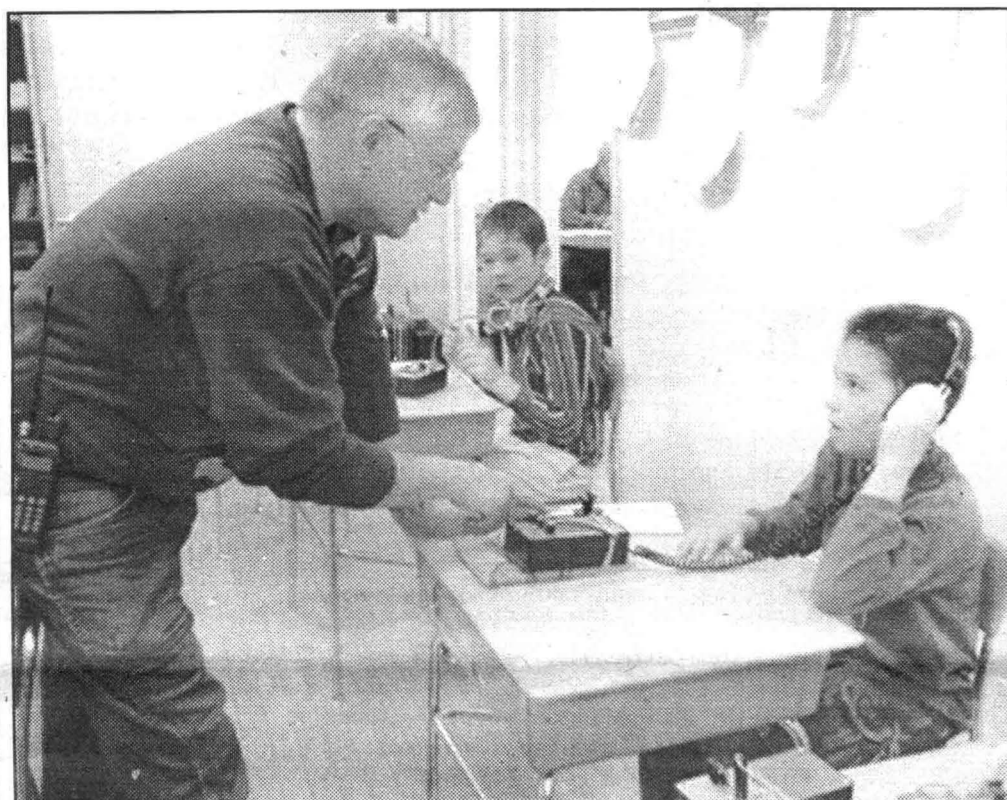
Following an FCC Warning Notice, Flippo initially was notified of the fine last July in an FCC Notice of Apparent Liability. Hams in Florida say Flippo has thumbed his nose at the FCC and has continued to flout the law by interfering with local HF

and repeater nets. FCC personnel from the FCC's Tampa District Office have followed up on complaints from amateurs that Flippo -- also known by his CB handle of "Rabbit Ears" -- has regularly interfered with hams on 10 meters, 2 meters and elsewhere. The Order acknowledges that the Commission has received information on "at least five occasions" since the fine was levied last July indicating that Flippo continues to violate federal law.

Flippo's only response to last year's Notice of Apparent Liability was to send the

Please turn to page 4

QCWA 162 shows off the hobby



Friday, February 4, six members of Southeastern Wisconsin QCWA Chapter 162 took part in an "options program" at Red Apple Elementary School in Racine. Here, Ron Fox, K9AKH, shows a student the beeps and boops of International Morse code.

Photo by Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

2000 Wisconsin QSO Party

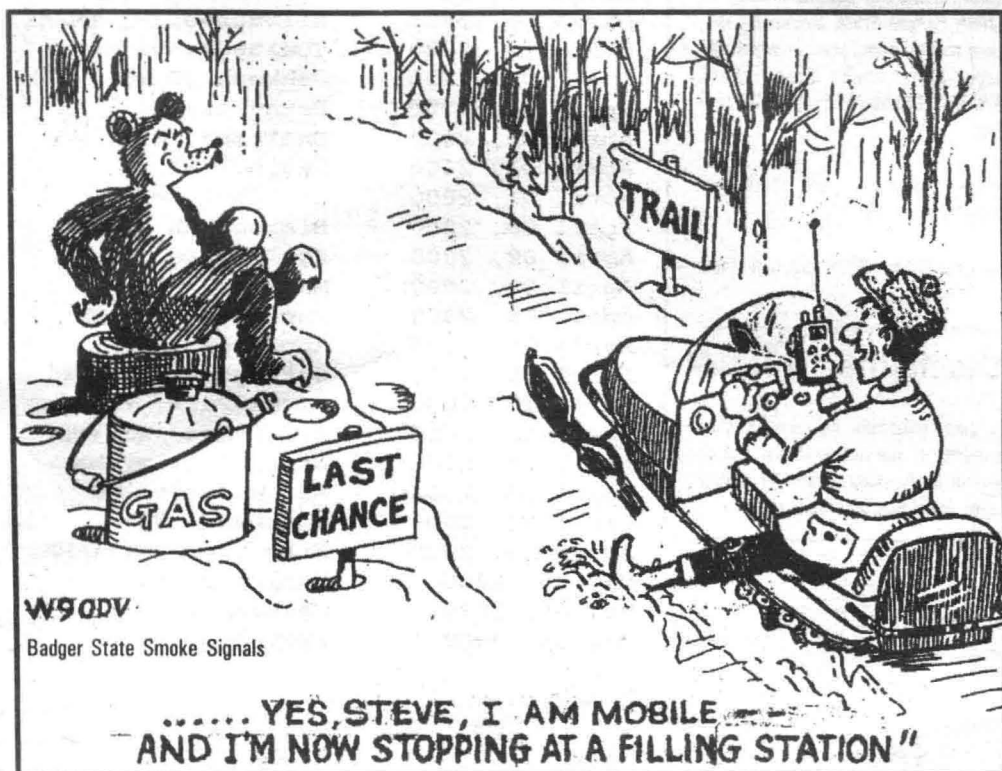
Sunday, March 12, 2000

12 noon to 7 p.m.

Rules and entry form in February issue.

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W9ODV
Badger State Smoke Signals



WHAT'S HAPPENING

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

Swapfests and Other Social Events

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000 SEWFARS Swapfest 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., setup starts at 6 a.m. Amateur Radio license exams. Information: (414) 835-7035.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000 Wisconsin QSO Party Info: www.warac.org

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2000 Hamfest Y2K Jefferson County Fairgrounds Tri-County Amateur Radio Club (920) 563-8740 tricityarc@globaldialog.com

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2000 NSRCfest a/k/a/LAMARSfest Lake County Fairgrounds Grayslake, IL 6 a.m. setup, open at 8 a.m. Amateur Radio exams Web: www.nsrc.org Email: jaf@lwt.net Phone: (847) 291-4160 (see ad elsewhere in this issue of BSSS)

FRIDAY, APRIL 7 and SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2000 Milwaukee WI AES Superfest 2000 (see ad elsewhere in this issue of BSSS)

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2000 Rochester Hamfest and Computer Show Olmsted County Fairgrounds Rochester, MN Doors open at 8 a.m. Info: <http://members.aol.com/rarchams> (507) 285-6522

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2000 Madison Swapfest Mandt Community Center, 4000 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI Doors Open: 8 a.m. Information: (608) 245-8890. (see ad elsewhere in this issue of BSSS)

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2000 Ozaukee Radio Club 22nd Annual Radio and Computer Swapfest 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Circle B Recreation Center Int. of Hwys 60 and Cty. I Examinations by Badger Examiners, Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222. Information: ORC, 1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024.

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2000 Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest Manitowoc County Expo ManCoRad Radio Club Info: Dick, N9QFY, (920) 682-9264 P.O. Box 204, Manitowoc WI 54221-0204

MAY 19 - 21, 2000 Dayton Hamvention. and ARRL National Convention Dayton, OH Information: (937) 276-6930 weekdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Web: <http://www.hamvention.org> Email: info@hamvention.org Advance registration: (937) 276-6930 or tickets@hamvention.org (From The ARRL Letter)

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2000 W9EAU Hamfest, Eau Claire, WI Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire WI 54702-1867 (715) 838-9108 Info: Jim Staatz, kg9ra@arrrl.net

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2000 Hamfest 00 South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club American Legion Park, Oak Creek Info: Verne at (414) 762-3235

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2000 Circus City Swapfest Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI Circus City Swapfest Info

As a service to our readers, this section is available without charge to list your upcoming swapfest, hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to kebnetter@palacenet.net.



CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the February 2000 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following changes have been reported to BSSS since that listing.

Fond Du Lac Amateur Radio Club
Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park Technical College, Fond Du Lac, WI at 7:00 p.m. For more information contact Gene Olig, KD9ZP gaolig@pitnet.net WEB: <http://personal.pitnet.net/FDLHAMES/>

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA)
Wisconsin Chapter 55
Wisconsin Chapter 55 meets the first Saturday of June and October. For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N. Port Washington Road, Grafton, WI 53024-9703. (262) 375-1774 email: rryokes@exepc.com

If your club has no listing, or the latest listing is incorrect, please contact K9EN at the address shown on page 2.

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio
Education and Information

CHAIRMAN: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. kebnetter@palacenet.net

EDITOR: Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 412 1/2 Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913. Telephone (608) 358-4031. smokesigs@baraboo.com

TREASURER: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901.

EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

Subscription Rate

1 year (12 issues) \$13.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.

This newspaper is produced by volunteer radio amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901.

Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations
and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

March 04, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 04, 2000	Pewaukee, WI
March 04, 2000	Racine, WI
March 04, 2000	St. Paul, MN
March 09, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
March 11, 2000	Blaine, MN
March 11, 2000	Madison, WI
March 18, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
March 18, 2000	Loves Park, IL
March 18, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 21, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
March 21, 2000	Shaboygan, WI
March 25, 2000	Appleton, WI
March 25, 2000	Bloomington, MN
March 25, 2000	Menomonie, WI
March 25, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
March 25, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
April 01, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 01, 2000	Pewaukee, WI
April 01, 2000	Onalaska, WI
April 01, 2000	Racine, WI
April 01, 2000	St. Paul, MN
April 08, 2000	Blaine, MN
April 08, 2000	Eau Claire, WI
April 08, 2000	Madison, WI
April 13, 2000	Apple Valley, MN
April 15, 2000	Appleton, WI
April 15, 2000	Cottage Grove, MN
April 15, 2000	Loves Park, IL
April 15, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
April 18, 2000	Eden Prairie, MN
April 22, 2000	Bloomington, MN
April 22, 2000	Tomahawk, WI
April 29, 2000	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 05, 2000	Onalaska, WI
May 06, 2000	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 06, 2000	Pewaukee, WI

May 06, 2000 Racine, WI
 May 06, 2000 St. Paul, MN
 May 11, 2000 Apple Valley, MN
 May 13, 2000 Blaine, MN
 May 13, 2000 Madison, WI
 May 13, 2000 Manitowoc, WI
 May 16, 2000 Eden Prairie, MN
 May 20, 2000 Cottage Grove, MN
 May 20, 2000 Loves Park, IL
 May 20, 2000 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 May 20, 2000 Sheboygan, WI
 May 27, 2000 Bloomington, MN
 May 27, 2000 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 May 27, 2000 Tomahawk, WI
 May 27, 2000 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 May 27, 2000 Sheboygan, WI
 July 18, 2000 Appleton, WI
 September 09, 2000 Appleton, WI
 September 16, 2000 Onalaska, WI
 September 16, 2000 Sheboygan, WI
 November 04, 2000 Menomonie, WI
 November 04, 2000 Onalaska, WI
 November 05, 2000 Kaukauna, WI
 November 21, 2000 Sheboygan, WI
 January 27, 2001 Appleton, WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Racine, WI
 (except January, July & August)
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. St. Paul, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Thu. Apple Valley, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Madison, WI
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Blaine, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Tue. Eden Prairie, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Cottage Grove, MN
 Monthly, 4th Sat. Bloomington, MN
 Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 (except December)
 Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
 (January thru October only)
 Quarterly Eau Claire, WI
 (Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)

plus annual summer hamfest.)

Attention exam groups: With recent restructuring and with the fee change which occurred on January 1, will you please look at the information about your group's sessions and verify that all is correct. There is an email link at the bottom of this page. Please send changes and corrections there. Restructuring will bring a lot of examinees to your sessions. It is your responsibility that the information given here is accurate, and your cooperation will be appreciated. Thanks!

Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walk-ins. Check with the sponsor. Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Got your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>
 or
<ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605>.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.65 payable to "ARRL/VEC". Exam fees change annually. See QST, WIAW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. Starting April 15, 2000, ARRL/VEC will no longer a free code test or Element 2. (The FCC has announced that the maximum Amateur Radio examination fee reimbursement that Volunteer Examiners and Volunteer Examiner Coordinators can collect during calendar year 2000 is \$6.66. The ARRL/VEC has set its 2000 test fee at \$6.65. Per ARRL-VEC policy, there is no examination charge for those taking only Elements 1A or 2. A \$6.65 fee will be collected from applicants seeking to upgrade using a physician's certification to waive the Morse code examination. -- Bart J. Jahnke, W9JJ in The ARRL

Letter)

FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details. Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only, starting April 15. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.shtml> By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB (MRAC/VEC) MILWAUKEE

Last Saturday, except June, July, and August, 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road, Milwaukee. For additional information, call (414) 797-MRAC (answering machine) or (414) 797-6722. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.40 for the exam fee. Walk-ins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Every third Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m. to noon, Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, Milwaukee. Exams are given at the old Serman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$6.35, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

MADISON, WI

Every second Saturday morning at 8 a.m. VE exams are held in Madison They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. Directions: Take the Beltline (Hwy 12 and 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile until South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Road and enter at gate. You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.65, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631. Mark Jenks, NZ9B

MENOMONIE, WI

March 25 and November 4, 2000: The Menomonie area hams will conduct VE exams for all classes of licenses. The location will be the U.W.-Stout Communications Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie Wisconsin. Walk-ins only. Arrive between 9 and 11 a.m. For information, contact Jim Ley, NX9F, (715) 235-3998 (H), or (715) 232-1397 (W).

STEVENS POINT, WI - ARRL/VEC

March 25, 2000, 9 a.m. CST. All levels of amateur exams. Room A107 of the UWSP Science Building, on campus, corner of Fourth and Reserve Streets. For questions, directions, or further information, contact Joe Larson, N9JW, at 715-344-1182 evenings or email to joel8@bigfoot.com. It's a golden opportunity to upgrade before the new rules take effect April 15. Joe Larson, N9JW

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen,

W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct. Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No advance registration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST) KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. W9MDP@arrl.net

OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

OSHKOSH, WI (R.A.W.) - (W5YI/VEC) February 19, 2000. Final session by R.A.W. Sponsored by Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (R.A.W.) Testing sessions at UW Oshkosh, College of Nursing Building, 845 Algoma Blvd., Room 211, Oshkosh, WI. Park free in lot 29 on side of building or in lot 25 behind the building. Registration start at 9 a.m. \$6.35 per test. Bring 2 forms of id etc. Walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Mike O'Conner, K9II (920) 231-7093.

EAU CLAIRE, WI

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For more info: Steve Bluem, KA9OMY. (715) 839-6509.

SHEBOYGAN, WI

SATURDAYS, January 8, May 20, and September 16: 8:30 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. testing. TUESDAYS, March 21, July 18, and November 21; 6:30 p.m. registration, 7 p.m. testing. All sessions will be held in the Red Cross building, 2023 Erie Avenue, in the main level classroom area. This testing site is handicapped/wheelchair accessible. Pre-registration is appreciated so we don't get caught short of forms and examinations, but walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Art Pahr, K9XJ, N8029 Willow Road, Plymouth, WI 53073-2929. (920) 876-2370. K9XJ e-mail: <k9xj@excel.net>

ONALASKA, WI (ARRL/VEC)

April 1, May 6, September 16, November 4. The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold test sessions at the Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue South. (April 1 at Onalaska Community Center.) Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Please bring two forms of identification and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, license, etc. A special session has been added April 1 at 9 a.m. The site for this session ONLY will be the Onalaska Community Center. For more information contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 526 13th Ave. N., Onalaska, WI 54650. (608) 783-0723.

MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Taylor County Area AREC. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054.

(continued on page 11)

Capital Column

Jim Lackore, AD9X
ARRL Wisconsin Section
Government Liaison

PRB-1: The Problem in Focus

In 1985, the FCC issued its now-famous declaratory ruling known as PRB-1.

This ruling provided for limited Federal government preemption of local zoning ordinances which affect amateur radio installations.

PRB-1 set forth three rules for local municipalities to follow in regulating antenna structures:

(1) state and local regulations which operate to preclude amateur communications are in direct conflict with Federal objectives and must be preempted;

(2) local regulations which involve placement, screening or height of antennas

based on health, safety or aesthetic considerations must be crafted to reasonably accommodate amateur communications; and

(3) such local regulations must represent the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the local authority's legitimate purpose.

PRB-1 was a giant step forward for amateur radio operators. It enhanced the enjoyment of their hobby as well as assisted them in the fulfillment of their vital public service role as emergency communicators and technical innovators.

However, PRB-1 has faced numerous challenges as local governments, officials and judges throughout the nation have attempted to interpret and apply the broadly stated mandate of PRB-1 to local needs and interests. And, unfortunately, many court rulings over the years have done more to confuse rather than clarify the intent and meaning of such broad guidelines as "reasonable accommodation" and "minimum practicable regulation".

Now, it seems to many observers, the FCC has compounded, rather than moved to further resolve the problems relating to PRB-1, by recently refusing a four-year-old request from the ARRL to further strengthen and clarify PRB-1. In dismissing the ARRL petition, the FCC said: "We continue to believe that the standards the Commission set, that is 'reasonable accommodation' and

'minimum practicable regulation', have worked relatively well."

And beyond all this, the FCC has refused to deal with one of the largest threats to Amateur Radio: restrictive private residential covenants. In its dismissal of the ARRL petition mentioned above, the FCC pointedly stated that PRB-1 excludes restrictive covenants in private contracts as "outside the reach of our limited preemption". (Although, the FCC did say that it "strongly encourages associations of homeowners and private contracting parties to follow the principle of reasonable accommodation" with respect to Amateur Radio.)

So - the problem has been defined and now the challenge must be met. What Wisconsin amateur radio operators can do to make their operating future more secure in light of the current status of PRB-1 will be the subject of the next "Capitol Columns".

SELL, SWAP, BUY

FOR SALE: With the advent of CDs and my dwindling supply of room to store things, I have QSTs complete from January 1969 to present. If someone is interested in purchasing them, please let me know. Neil Degner, WA9WYL, N107 W16009 Creek Terrace, Germantown, WI 53011. edegner@execpc.com



www.NS9RC.org

The North Shore Radio Club

presents

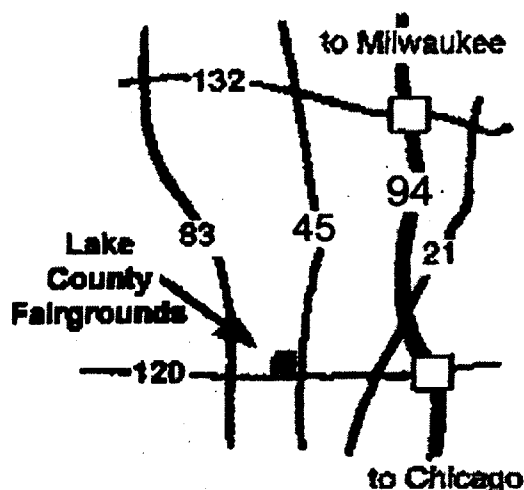
NS9RC Fest

formerly known as LAMARSfest

Sunday March 26th 2000

Lake County Fairgrounds

Grayslake, Illinois



ALL INDOOR, Radio, Electronic
Computer Swapfest

V.E. Testing 9 AM to Noon

Hourly Prize Drawings

Admission \$6 at the gate / \$5 in Advance!
Advance Tickets have Double Stubs

Doors open at 8 AM. Set-up at 6 AM.
Free Parking Cafeteria Open

Talk-in Simplex 146.52 & NSRC Repeater 147.345 +.600

To order your NSRCfest exhibitor tables and tickets fill in this form,
include a check, and a self-addressed stamped envelope and mail all three to:

Commercial section tables # _____ @ \$25 each = \$ _____
Swapfest tables -Wall # _____ @ \$15 each = \$ _____
Swapfest tables -Center # _____ @ \$10 each = \$ _____
Advanced Tickets # _____ @ \$ 5 each = \$ _____
(each attendee must have a ticket)
Advanced Tickets have Double Stubs! Total = \$ _____

North Shore Radio Club NS9RC
Box 1066
Highland Park, IL 60035

Name _____ Call Sign _____
Address _____
Telephone _____ Email _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please don't forget your Payment and SASE!
No sale of firearms or food products will be allowed
Questions Call WA9ZF (847) 291-4160

Attendees! Your tax I.D. # _____

www.NS9RC.org

American Lung Association seeks hams for 2000 "Big Ride"

The American Lung Association is recruiting ham radio "communicators" to assist in its Big Ride Across America 2000. The 2000 ride -- only the second to use ham radio operators -- is the third annual event to raise money and awareness for the American Lung Association's fight against lung disease.

It's a 3500-mile bicycle trek from Seattle, Washington, to Washington, DC, from June 19, 2000 to August 5, 2000. More than 850 cyclists have raised in excess of \$7.2 million during the previous rides.

Details are available at

<<http://www.bigrideride.com>>

Volunteers can sign up for the entire Ride or choose from one or more segments of the country. The direct link to volunteer information is

<<http://www.bigrideride.com/Get/get.html>>

The Crew Registration Form on that page lists the segment dates and locations.

To volunteer or to obtain more information about volunteer responsibilities, contact Volunteer Support Manager Mark Ewert, KB1ECH,

<bigrideride@lungusa.org>

or call toll free at 877-BIGRIDE (877-244-7433).

ARRL

\$20,000 fine upheld by FCC

Continued from front page

FCC a copy of a one-page bankruptcy filing. The FCC was not impressed, however. "In a case where an NAL has been issued and the recipient continues to engage in the same conduct, we are not inclined to adjust the forfeiture amount, even where the recipient has filed for bankruptcy protection," the Commission said.

One Jupiter-area ham who has cooperated with the FCC investigation says Flippo has been causing problems for the amateur community in his area since late 1997. He and fellow members of the Jupiter-Tequesta Repeater Group want to see the FCC take a stronger stand in the case.

"I want to see the guy in jail -- plain and simple -- and his equipment confiscated," said the amateur, who did not want to be identified by name fearing retaliation. "The problem is, we're all playing by the rules here, and this guy goes out and buys a radio and he gets on there and does whatever he wants and brags about it."

FCC personnel from the Tampa office have visited the Jupiter area at least twice last year as a result of amateur complaints alleging malicious interference from Flippo, primarily on VHF but also on some HF amateur bands.

The ARRL Letter

Doing it in the WQP?

While BSSS no longer prints results of the Wisconsin QSO Party, we'd still like to hear from and see participants in words and photos. If you operate at home, portable, or mobile in the party, a short story and a photo or two would be appreciated. Please submit to the editor, address page 2. Thanks!

A•E•S S•U•P•E•R•F•E•S•T•2•0•0•0



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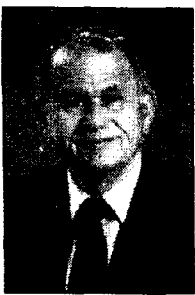
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MARCH 2000

The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(262) 284-9346



No. 76: Periodic Reinstallation of Windows

Dave Barrow (N9UNR) stopped by today and I asked him what he thought might be useful to you in this column. Dave runs Stonewall Computers, a consulting business, and recommends this interesting, useful idea to his customers. He believes that every Windows (95 or 98) user should plan and execute a complete reinstallation every now and then, perhaps after a year of heavy use. Let us look at a bit of background to understand why Guru Dave recommends this, and why his logic is correct.

Windows is nothing more than a large suite of programs collectively called a Graphical User Interface. Notwithstanding what Microsoft tells us, it completely depends on DOS, the actual operating system that interfaces between the hardware and software in every computer. I mentioned proof of this a couple of months ago (see No. 74, January 2000). If Windows wants to format a floppy, it cannot do it directly. It must make a request to DOS for the process to begin and complete. That is why it takes about 40% more time to format a disk in Windows, when compared to a format in native DOS on the very same machine. You ask Windows to do it, and Windows must then ask DOS. DOS tells the hardware to do it and how. The hardware does the job, reports it is finished to DOS. DOS then reports it back to Windows, and Windows reports it to you. Naturally, it is going to take more time to go through Windows when you want to do something. Windows is nothing more than an intermediary in the process!

Now, multiply that intermediary behavior for the many, many tasks Windows must accomplish. Furthermore, you must also understand that the Windows program(s) must be written to accomplish each task that you might request of it. The result is that Windows is now such a large and cumbersome suite of interacting programs that it is hard to predict what will happen when Windows is running. Not even the software engineers always know what is going on.

A case in point: On occasion, my computer has been sitting idle for many hours, perhaps when I was reading a book on the other side of the room. Suddenly, one of the floppy drives is accessed, or something is written to or read from the hard drive (as judged by the hard drive activity LED), all without being touched by a human! Have you had this happen? I bet you have. Now, sometimes this is a perfectly predictable process caused by an event timer for something or other. On the other hand, sometimes it happens unpredictably, perhaps because of unintentional interactions between parts of the Windows program suite. I jokingly call this kind of behavior self-stimulation by Windows, though generally couched in somewhat different terms.

The point is, there are files being created or modified or deleted all the time by Windows without our knowledge or control, and these changes tend to increase the number of files on the hard drive ("file creep"). More sources of creep are the temporary files that are created when we install new software. These temporary files are supposed to be deleted when the installation is done, but this routinely does not happen. Another source is those GIF files that collect on your hard drive every time a new web page is drawn on your screen. Yet another source are those cookie files that various sites write on your hard drive platters whenever you surf the web.

So then, with time, unused and unwanted files accumulate. Furthermore, complex interactions and even an occasional stray cosmic ray can damage files that are critical and that are used every day. I had that happen last week, when Windows reported it could not find a highly critical file that it needed to operate. I went looking for it, and found it exactly where it should be, but something had deleted one letter in its name! Of course, Windows could not recognize it with the missing character. I restored the character, and Windows was happy again.

Dave's contention (and he is completely correct) is that these errors and extra files accumulate with time. He is also correct when he observes that neither we humans nor any existing program including Windows itself can keep track of the file creep and accumulating errors. After a year or two of heavy use, one can expect some subtle, unwanted changes to begin surfacing. The only recourse with a reasonable cost/benefit ratio is to completely wipe Windows from the drive and reinstall the whole shebang. Unfortunately, he is right again!

You don't usually need to erase and reinstall Word, or WordPerfect, or Paint Shop Pro (your application programs), as well. Although these all are open to damage too, none are as complex as Windows and the chance for damage is therefore less. Besides, when application programs are damaged, you generally know it right away, and about the only thing that happens is that the application doesn't work. Other programs are generally not affected. On the other hand, when Windows is bad, nothing works!

So then, how do you make the reinstall as painless as possible? Well, here is a tip I have found useful. Set your hard drive up with three partitions. Drive C contains nothing but Windows 95 or 98. Drive D contains nothing but your application programs. Drive E contains all your creations - letters, files, photos and so on. Now, when you do backups, you need copy only the stuff on drive E - the results of your hard work. If you need to reinstall Windows, it is only the files on drive C that must be replaced.

Now, use care! Make sure you have a boot disk handy that will allow you access to your CD-ROM drive and mouse. Test it to make sure! Then, in Windows, click Control Panel, then Add/Remove Programs. Scroll down to find Windows 95 (or 98). Click it to highlight it, then click the Add/Remove button. Tell Windows you really do want it to uninstall itself. Reboot in MS-DOS mode with the floppy and make sure all folders and subfolders on the C: drive are gone. If not, delete the buggers. Use the good old DOS command from the root folder: rd windows (rd = remove directory, case insensitive). Don't forget that you can't remove a folder unless it is empty and contains no subfolders, so use DIR to navigate to the proper place for deletion to succeed. Now you are ready to fire up the CD-ROM for a sparkling new installation. Happy computing!

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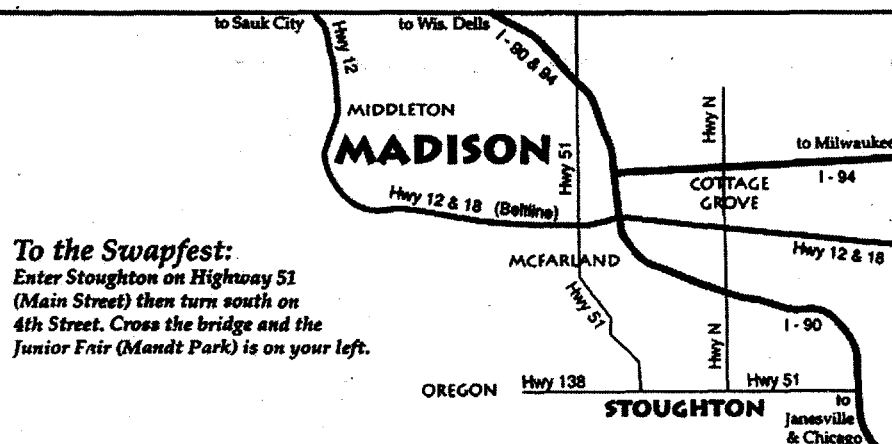
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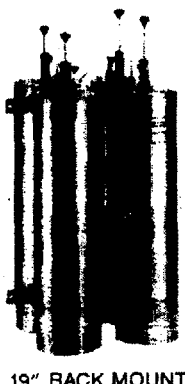
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2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

MEETING MINUTES February 9, 2000

The Mancorad February meeting was called to order at 7:35 by President Fred (W6BSF).

The January minutes which were printed in the *Badger State Smoke Signals* were approved by motions made and seconded by Len (N9QFO) and Red (N9GHE) respectively.

The treasurer's report was given by Roger (W9NPX). Motion for approval was made by Bob (KB9INK) and seconded by Carl (KA9ZTF).

Members were reminded of the upcoming hamfest May 13. A signup sheet was put out for members to sign up for working. Flyers were also available for handing out.

Len (N9QFO) was congratulated on his updating to General Class. A round of applause, please.

The club welcomed back Carl (KA9WYK) to our club. A former member, he most recently was a member of the Sheboygan club. Also, the club voted in two new members, Dennis (WD9-ERU) and Chris (KB9VLS). Approval motion made by Red (N9GHE) and seconded by Don (KB9NTL). Welcome to all three new members.

President Fred (W6BSF) handed out a newsletter and a new club member listing. Also Ron (WS9X) had MACRO lists for everyone.

Our president also had handouts on the new universal licensing system and step by step instructions for getting on line with the FCC. All members were encouraged to pick up a set and study them. This will facilitate renewing your license on line. Thank you, Fred, for collecting this all for everyone.

The club has received notice about the Point Beach Emergency Nuclear Drill. It will be held on 12/5/00. Volunteers are needed for this.

Fred (W6BSF) is working on publicity for the Cobia event. It will be held on 4/29 - 30/00. Being the 100th anniversary this year, we are hoping for extra news coverage, including TV. Notices are being sent to the *Smoke Signals* and *ARRL Extra*. We hope to have enough volunteers to run three stations this year. Keep these dates in mind.

Discussion was held on publishing a quarterly newsletter for members who don't attend the monthly meetings. Expenses of postage and labels were mentioned. After lengthy discussion, it was decided to try it for a year. All members are encouraged to submit articles for the letter as well as upcoming events of the club. Fred (W6-

BSF) is coordinating this and looking for some help.

The club was notified that if there was enough interest in weather spotting, a class would be run this spring. A strong showing of hands indicated that many people would like the class. Contact Fred (W6BSF) or Nancy Crowley to get your name on the list. A date will be announced.

A date will be announced at next month's meeting for the theory class being taught by Roger (W9NPX) and John (NZ9Z). There is some interest in upgrading to this level. It was also noted that the new questions for Elements 2, 3, and 4 are now available. A practice test can also be taken on line.

The board has listed a number of goals for the club this year. Besides items already listed in this newsletter are having a Field Day, getting club jackets, a parade float, and upgrading the repeater. Red (N9GHE) is in contact with a land owner in regards to getting a new repeater site.

The club has been to participate again in the bike races. Bob (KB9INK) will check into this for us. More information will follow at a later date.

Ron (WS9X) gave an informative talk and demonstration of autopatch and reverse autopatch. Thank you, Ron.

Dave (N9HNP) was drawn in our member drawing. Since he was not in attendance, the jackpot will go to 9.00.

Lunch once again was provided by Denise (N4WKG). Thank you, Denise. It was enjoyed by all.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45. Motion made for adjournment by Red (N9GHE) and seconded by Denise (N4WKG).

Submitted for approval:
Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE, Secretary

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Fred, W6BSF	Roger, W9NPX
Janice, N9IQZ	Lyle, WB9VTM
Oran, N9VIA	Bill, N9XEZ
Bob, KB9INK	Carl, KA9ZTF
Len, N9QFO	Paul, AA9WI
Don, KB9NTL	Rahlf, N9AWG
Chuck, N9WUN	Denise, N4WKG
Carl, KA9WYK	Red, N9GHE
Ron, WS9X	Gene, KB9KXF
Dan, N9FVZ	Jim, KB9GOX
Theresa, KB9KXE	

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

Meeting Minutes February 1, 2000

Meeting was called to order by KB9DED. members present: N9NMH, N9TTA, KB9FRB KB9DZG, N9SDL, KB9MCZ, N9SDI, N9PHC, W9WW, N9WPH, N9NRC, KB9RXA, N9IAB, N9NRA, KB9VBR, N9NQL, and N9LIA. Visiting was Bob WA9NBC. Bob has moved back to the area from Northern Illinois.

Old Business

We discussed the Special Event Station with a special call of W9M for the 150th birthday of

Marathon County on April 1, 2000. We will operate from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on April 1st (1500Z 04/01/00 to 0300Z 04/02/00.) We will be operating on 28.375, 21.325 and 14.250.

The WVRA will hold a testing session April 8th for those wishing to upgrade prior to April 15th, and then a second session April 22nd to process newly acquired CSCEs. The site and time will follow. By reservation to W9WW.

The WVRA will be providing health and welfare communications at the Badger State Winter Games Saturday and Sunday, February 5th and 6th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days at

Please turn to page 8

Lakeshore Repeater Association

147.270 MHz • Racine, Wisconsin

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO • 5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402-9741

wa9jmo@wi.net

During our last quarterly meeting held January 25, 2000, the Board fielded several questions concerning the repeater's day to day operations. Strong opinions were expressed as to why coverage to the North seems to have diminished over the last few years, and others explored the possibility of utilizing PL for future two-meter activities.

Our main site antenna is 20 years old and the transmission line is about 10. Many members in attendance felt that time and weather had worked in tandem to deteriorate the overall repeater effectiveness. The group as a whole seemed to believe that replacing the current antenna system was the answer to the problem and authorized the Board to take the necessary action to accomplish this.

As for PL on the repeater, the time may come when this is required because it is mandated or conditions demand it. But for the present, the Board feels it is not needed. The very limited interference the repeater currently experiences would not greatly be degraded with the use of PL. The Board has placed this idea on a shelf for now.

Our second and third quarterly meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2000 and Tuesday, July 25, 2000 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Racine Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. An ARES meeting will proceed our 7:30 meeting by about an hour. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402



Our Valentine gathering, hampered a bit by the weather, welcomed 13 members and spouses to the Meadows Restaurant for a fine afternoon of dining, revelry and dog stories. The stories dealt with large dogs taking people for a walk and others mysteriously detaching themselves from locked kennels.

Our next meeting will begin at 7 p.m.; those dining may want to arrive at 6:30 p.m. Note! This is a change in time from our normal start. It is scheduled for Monday, March 20, 2000 at the Meadows Restaurant in Franksville. We had discussed a location in Kenosha County, but those suggested were dismissed. Some of the members were dissatisfied with a previous encounter at the offered sites. We are still looking for a future meeting place at a later date with our Southern member in their bailiwick. If you know of place please bring it up during one of our nets.

On Friday, February 4, 2000, six Chapter members participated in an options program at Racine's Red Apple Elementary School. Our option was Amateur Radio. Three members, Spencer Clope, W9LDH, Ron Fox, K9AKH, and Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, set up a two-meter transceiver station and a bank of code oscillators with headphones for ten 3rd to 5th grade students to experience talking on Ham Radio. Three other chapter members, Fern Fisher, W9LCJ, Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9RGO, and Phil Newmiller, KC9-IS, were on the other end of the two-meter

contact. Each student got to "talk" to someone on the air. And with the aid of ARRL's Archie Comic Books, an item they took home with them, they banged out messages via CW to one another. A teacher assigned to our group seemed to get more enjoyment out of the Code Oscillators than did the students.

We only had the kids for an hour, but hopefully we left them with a thought two about or a general interest in our hobby. Whether we did or not, we still had a very enjoyable hour with those young folks.

I am happy to report that Bill Komistra, W9OVZ, has been feeling better and is back with our Thursday evening nets. Great to have you back, Bill.

Our Greater Southeastern Wisconsin Ham Banquet is Saturday evening, March 18, 2000 at the Racine Yacht Club. Registration and the cocktail hour begins at 5:30 p.m., buffet dinner at 6:45 p.m. and our program at 8 p.m. Our banquet is our opportunity to recognize Amateur Radio operators who have unselfishly given of their time, talent and effort in service to our hobby and their community. Please come and join us in this recognition celebration. Tickets are \$17.75. You may call me for a reservation. Hope to see all of you on March 18th.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

OF FORMS AND FEES....

Forms 610 phased out

With a single exception, the venerable FCC Form 610 now is history. The FCC phased out the documents February 16. Amateur Radio applicants now must use the Universal Licensing System forms (Forms 605, 606) for all purposes. There is one exception: FCC Form 610B Club Station application continues to be valid until the FCC finalizes its privatized club station call sign administrator program.

ARRL-VEC to charge for code tests

Starting with the inception of the new FCC Amateur Radio licensing rules on April 15, 2000, the ARRL-VEC will charge a test fee of \$6.65 to take the Element 1 (5 WPM Morse code) test. Until April 15, the 5 WPM Morse code test (Element 1A) and/or the Novice written test (Element 2) are free at ARRL-VEC test sessions.

The ARRL Letter

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Continued from page 7

the Nine Mile Recreational facility for the Cross Country Ski event. Attendance is expected to be one of the largest turnouts yet. Mike, N9IAB, Chairman.

The WVRA will be providing health and welfare communications at the Wisconsin Special Olympic Winter Games Saturday and Sunday, February 12th and 13th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days at the Indian Head Golf Course facility for the Cross Country Ski event. Jack, N9LIA, Chairman.

New Business

Mike, KB9DED, presented four options that the board determined for discussion by members

present. A motion by N9SDL and 2nd by N9LIA to accept the 3rd option for the WVRA Grant Proposal of \$7,685.45, which includes new: dual band VHF - UHF antenna, 7/8 feed line and connectors, 2 meter duplexer, 440 MHz repeater, 440 MHz duplexer, repeater controller and a duplexer (2M/440 MHz). After discussion, members present passed it. A detailed equipment and price list was distributed at the meeting and is available for further review by members and part of the meeting minutes.

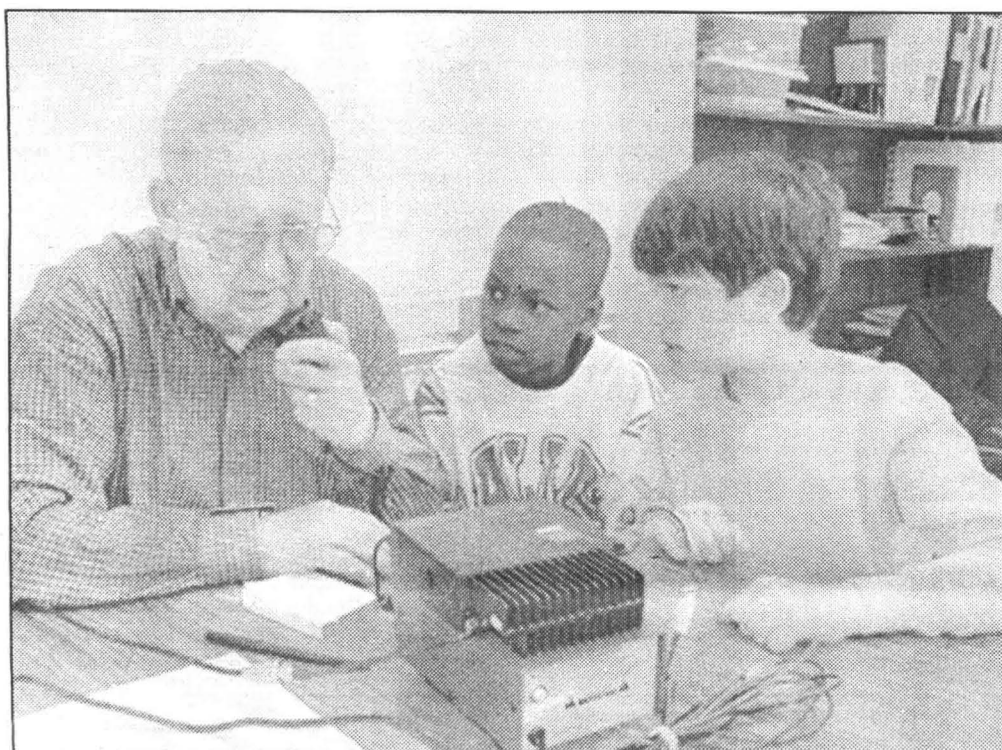
We (N9SDL, KB9MCZ, and N9SDI) will now proceed to finalize and submit the Grant Proposal.

NTC has been reserved through August of 2000 for the WVRA Club meeting use. Thanks to Jack, N9LIA.

Meeting adjourned with a motion from N9NRA and 2nd by W9WW.

Respectfully submitted:
Kim Kunze, N9SDL

Talking up ham radio: It's elementary



Spencer Clope, W9LDH, left, of QCWA Chapter 162, shows how two-meter FM works to two grade school students at Racine's Red Apple Elementary School.

Photo by Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI
Don Parkinson, KB9HAM, Secretary
c/o RMC • P.O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 54301-0003
e-mail: w9udu@wi.net

Web: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>
Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC • ARRL Affiliated
Providing communications for American Red Cross and ARES

The Racine Megacycle Club meeting was held on Monday, Feb. 14th, at 7:30 p.m. at Gateway Technical College. The meeting started by everyone introducing themselves by name and call during this "Valentine's day gala celebration" as expressed by President Robert Burgermeister, W9EH. There were rosters available thanks to our treasurer, Greg Holding, KB9RMA, and copies produced by our President.

The floor was turned over to Larry, WA9-JMO, to announce again the S.E. Wisconsin Annual Awards Banquet, a buffet dinner, being held at the Racine Yacht Club, Saturday, March 18th. Cost is \$17.75 per person. The Awards Banquet will begin by registering at 5:30 p.m. Larry is asking for those members present to honor those outstanding ham operators who have contributed their services to this community in the effort of Amateur Radio by attending this event. Larry had banquet flyers available for those that were interested in attending.

Our president excused our activities director, Reese Roberts, K9UUT, for this evening because of a town meeting he was attending in his community. Reese finally showed up at the very tail end this evening's presentation.

President Robert Burgermeister requested the minutes to be read. Secretary Don Parkinson,

the Badger State Smoke Signals. He read the minutes and corrections were noted, namely: the name Ralph was Rob Madson, KF9ZT, who took digital pictures at W9UDU Station on New Year's Day. And John Wozniczka, Jr., N9RGV, was also added to the list of participants that day. Minutes were then motioned by Ken Kuchar, N9WHR, and seconded by Patrick Weeks, KB9ULT, and approved by those present.

The president asked for the treasurer, Greg Holding, KB9RMA, to give his report. Greg said, based on the club's by-laws, a quarterly report is to be reported and made available for members to review for the last quarter of 1999. Any questions regarding the statement he invited to please inquire.

Greg mentioned about the building fund and suggested a means to invest those funds. The president asked if there be a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Kenny, N9WHR, so moved and Kevin Aney, KB9LLV, seconded it. All those present voted unanimously for the treasurer's report. Greg also added that he has membership cards or rosters for those that have not picked one up.

The president stated that there wasn't very much business to discuss and invited the group

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Bette Kratz, KF9ZU, Secretary
950 E. Trout Valley Rd. • Friendship WI 53934-9672

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CST	Manager
BWN	Yes	3985	1200	0600	W9RCW
BEN	Yes	3985	1800	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2330	1730	WB9WHQ
WNN	Yes	3723	0000	1800	KB9OCZ
WSSN	Yes	3645	0030	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0400	2200	W9UW
RCRA	No	01/61 (Mondays CDT)	0130 (Menomonie Area)	1930	KA9OMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12 (Green Bay Area)	0345	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	No	4.65/5.25 (South East/South Central Wisconsin)	0300	2100	
RACES	No	3993.5 (LSB Sunday)	1500	0900	WA9OAY

STM Report January 2000

The Wisconsin nets look good. Check-ins are holding, traffic is flowing, and there's time for plenty of camaraderie. So now what? Building.

Although our nets are friendly, we can always use more polite and welcoming operation. Ideally, the Wisconsin nets should become known for their friendly atmosphere as well as their efficiency. Lately, I've noticed some very positive trends from net participants -- net control volunteers, increased origination of traffic, bringing up issues for discussion, volunteering technical advice. Input such as this helps to weave the close relationships we need to maintain our nets. As we get to know each other as people, we become more tolerant, more helpful, and more able to anticipate each other's needs as we handle traffic. Am I advocating an even "kinder, gentler" net operation? I suppose I am. We can improve on what's already a good thing by doing more of what we already do and spreading the word.

By the way, if you're not an Official Relay Station, maybe you should be. If you handle traffic (ARRL radiograms) regularly on HF and/or repeater nets, this appointment is for you. Traffic handling is a great way to hone your operating skills, and meet new friends. The ARRL was founded in 1914 on the principle of relaying messages via Amateur Radio. You'll be carrying on a great tradition. Monthly reporting is required. Just send a radiogram with your station activities (traffic originated, received, sent, delivered, total) each month to the Section Traffic Manager. Let me know if you're interested in this appointment.

Don't forget to check out

<<http://www.eboard.com/wna>>.

Keep up the excellent work. 73.

Denny
K9LGU / STM
Wisconsin

MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY JAN 2000

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1328	1740	2327	31	
BEN	621	86	976	30	
WSBN	640	52	923	29	
WNN	176	20	366	31	
WSSN	267	33	366	31	
WIN/E	264	80	330	31	
WIN/L	196	37	276	31	
TOTALS	3492	2048	5564	214	

K9LGU	0	49	12	0	61
KE9VU	0	25	34	0	60
W9YCV	0	12	32	3	47
KG9B	0	4	38	1	43
KB9ROB	0	30	8	2	40
W9BHL	0	1	36	0	37
KA9FVX	0	2	31	2	34
KN9P	1	16	3	14	34
AA9BB	2	0	31	0	33
WB9ICH	0	29	4	0	33
KB9QPM	0	2	29	1	32
WD9FLJ	4	6	6	5	21
N9JIY	0	2	6	0	8
W9ODV	0	0	7	0	7
W9PVD	0	1	2	0	3

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
W9RCW	0	587	27	319	933-BPL
K9JPS	0	381	48	348	777-BPL
W9YPY	0	289	328	0	609-BPL
W9IHW	0	272	37	244	553-BPL
K9GU	0	253	31	253	537-BPL
W27V	0	218	33	218	469-BPL
N9TVT	0	97	295	0	392
W9CBE	0	85	82	5	172
K9FHI	0	47	91	1	137
N9KHD	0	51	41	10	102
N9CK	5	43	41	2	91
AG9G	0	17	63	0	80
N9BDL	0	27	49	1	77
W9UW	0	47	24	0	71

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL
W9RCW	45	0	0	319	0	30	10	0	404
K9FHI	60	24	24	1	0	30	10	30	179
WD9FLJ	60	0	24	5	4	20	10	30	153
K9LGU	60	24	24	0	0	20	20	0	148
N9BDL	60	24	24	1	0	30	0	0	139
W9CBE	60	24	24	5	0	20	0	0	133
W9YCV	60	24	24	3	0	20	0	0	131
N9KHD	60	24	24	10	0	0	0	0	118
N9TVT	60	24	24	0	0	10	0	0	118
AG9G	60	24	18	0	0	10	0	0	112
KA9FVX	60	3	0	2	0	10	0	0	95
K9JPS	40	24	6	1	1	10	0	0	82

HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!

MADISON SWAPFEST

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2000

DETAILS IN AD ON PAGE 6!

Racine Megacycle Club

Continued from page 9

for any old business. Kenny, N9WHR, expressed thanks to Patrick Weeks (KB9ULT) and Matt Weeks (KB9ULU) for an open-air code practice. Everyone who participated also loved it and Kenny motioned to express thanks from the group. For those that do not know Matthew or Patrick: Matthew is 11 years old and holds an Extra license; Patrick is 13 years old, who holds a General license. Many comments were expressed on the event and it was announced that there are more code testing coming up for those who may have missed this one.

President Robert asked Dennis Karski, W9CWI, if he could permit to state his very unique position. He has held a Technician's license for a very long time and qualifies to be a General as soon as he applies for it based on the new rules by ARRL (sic). All he has to do is fill out the form and prove the date of his license.

Later, Dennis presented to the group a special presentation of cellular phones and how they function.

The floor was given to Rob, KF9ZT, to show the QSL cards that they would be sending to those contacts during the New Years Day 2000

broadcast. They have created a card that shows all the participants who were present during that special event and it was done up very nicely. The club thanks them for their participation.

No more old or new business was brought up. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m. by a motion from Greg, KB9RMA, and Kenny, seconded it by N9WHR. It was voted unanimously, and then we had our cellular phone presentation by Dennis Karski, W9CWI, which lasted beyond 9:00 p.m.

Dennis was invited and is a very old friend of our president. He currently lives in the Franklin area and has worked 19 years with Motorola and has been into cellular for 6 years. He has been a ham since the 60s. In his introduction, he invited all to ask as many questions, but cautioned that there are questions that he will not be allowed to answer. His presentation lasted for a good hour and the questions poured in as expected. He explained how cellular keeps track of you, identifies you, determines who you are, what type of service class you have, where are you located and whether you passed all the security parameters.

All of this is impervious to the user. It was a very interesting topic to those that were in attendance and we thank Dennis for his very informative topic. □

Skywarn Weather Spotter Training Courses

February 14, 2000

From Skip Voros, WD9HAS Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association

Storm spotter training for Wisconsin and border state areas as of 2/4/00. This information is provided by MASA, the Milwaukee Area Skywarn Association, Inc.

April 10 - 14 is Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week in Wisconsin.

As always, schedules can change, so call ahead to verify each program. In most areas, most storm spotter training programs are conducted free of charge by area NWS offices in each state. These programs are considered as basic programs (for the beginner or as a refresher) unless noted. Programs listed as "advanced" are for those personnel who have already attended a Basic program and want to further their training. The advanced programs can be lengthy and technical.

Also listed are storm spotter training and severe weather programs presented by other personnel, institutions, and agencies, (noted by the *) which have the support and cooperation of the NWS. I strongly suggest that seriously committed spotters attend as many of these programs as possible (especially the free ones!). Your meteorological understanding and visual comprehension will dramatically increase by attending several spotter programs over and over. Be sure to bring paper and pencil for notes.

Also, it's best to attend a basic program before attending the advanced programs. This list will update as new dates/locations become scheduled. For questions, corrections, updates, or new listings: <masa@execpc.com>.

Northern and Northeast Wisconsin (Green Bay NWS)

Mar 8: Waupaca, 6:30 p.m., Marion, Fire Dept. Contact Emerg Mgr for space availability.

Mar 10: Appleton, 8 a.m., FVTC, Law Enforcement Recruit Class only.

Mar 15: Calumet 7 p.m., Chilton, Courthouse. Contact Emerg Mgr for space availability.

Mar 21: Winnebago, 2 p.m., Oshkosh, EAA Vette Theater. Contact Emerg Mgr for space availability.

Mar 21: Winnebago, 6:30 p.m., Oshkosh, EAA Vette Theater. Contact Emerg Mgr for space availability.

Mar 29: Waupaca, 6:30 p.m., King, Wisconsin Vet's Home. Contact Emerg Mgr for space availability.

Southwest/Central Wisconsin (La Crosse NWS)

Mar 23: Vernon, 7 p.m., Viroqua WI fire station.

Mar 27: Grant, 7 p.m., Lancaster WI high school auditorium.

Mar 30: Jackson, 7 p.m., Melrose WI high school.

Apr 4: Clark, 7 p.m., Merrillan WI fire station.

Apr 10: La Crosse, 7 p.m., (FD only), Shelby fire station


Apr 17: La Crosse, 7 p.m., La Crosse, Franciscan Skemp Hospital

Apr 18: Buffalo, 7 p.m., Mondovi, Marten Center

Apr 19: 7 p.m., Prairie du Chein WI high school.

South-central and Southeast Wisconsin (Milwaukee/Sullivan NWS)

Mar 1: Jefferson Co., City of Jefferson, 2nd floor Courthouse, 7-9 p.m.



SHEBOYGAN

County Amateur Radio Club

★

Sky Borkenhagen, N9XRU, Secretary
N6466 Plank Circle • Glenbeulah WI 53023

2-Meter Repeater: 147.06 Output

February SCARC Meeting Minutes

In lieu of the regular SCARC meeting our annual Sweet Heart Dinner was held at The Brisco County Wood Grill in Sheboygan. All

who attended enjoyed good food and fellowship. Regular meeting schedule will resume in March.

*Respectfully submitted:
Sky Borkenhagen, N9XRU*

Mar 6: Rock Co., Footville, Fire Dep't, 7-9 p.m.

Mar 7: Rock Co., Rock Co. Health Care Center-Hwy 51 8-10 a.m., 1-3 p.m., 7-9 p.m.

Mar 8: Green Co., Albany Fire Dept/EMS, 7-9 p.m.

Mar 9: Green Co., Monroe - Pleasant View Complex, 1 - 3 p.m., 7 - 9 p.m.

Mar 13: Milwaukee Co., Wauwatosa Public Library, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Mar 14: Lafayette Co., Darlington - in Courthouse, 7 - 9 p.m.

Mar 15: Iowa Co., Dodgeville - in the Courthouse, 7 - 9 p.m.

Mar 16: Walworth Co., Elkhorn - in the middle school on Jackson, 7 - 9 p.m.

Mar 22: Columbia Co., Portage - in the Courthouse, 7 - 9 p.m.

Mar 23: Sauk Co., Baraboo - in the West Administration Bldg., 10 - noon, 2 - 4 p.m., 7 - 9 p.m.

Mar 27: Dane Co., Madison Red Cross Bldg on Sheboygan, 7 - 9 p.m.

Mar 29: Green Lake Co., To be determined, 7 - 9 p.m.

Mar 30: Fond du Lac Co., Fond du Lac - in the Courthouse, 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 3: Racine Co., Racine - Gateway Tech Racine Bldg., 1-3 p.m., 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 5: Sheboygan Co., UW - Sheboygan Center, 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 6: Fond du Lac Co., Fond du Lac - in the Courthouse, 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 10: Waukesha Co., Waukesha - in County Admin Bldg., 3 - 5p.m., 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 11: Dane Co., Sun Prairie - in new Library on Linnerud, 1 - 3 p.m., 6 - 8 p.m.

Apr 17: Marquette Co., Montello - Sheriff Bldg., 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 18: Kenosha Co., County Center Bldg. at Hwy 45/50, 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 20: Dodge Co., Horicon - at Police/Fire Dept/EMS Bldg., 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 24: Washington Co., West Bend Fire Dept.

Bldg., 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., 1-3 p.m.

Apr 24: Washington Co., Richfield Fire Dept. Bldg., 7 - 9 p.m.

Apr 27: Ozaukee Co., Port Washington - Justice Center, 7 - 9 p.m.

Northwestern Wisconsin Updated (Duluth NWS)

No schedule yet.

Central Wisconsin (Minneapolis NWS)

March 16, 6 p.m., Barron, Barron Courthouse.

March 22, tba, Chippewa, tba, tba.

April 11, 7 p.m., Eau Claire, Eau Claire Chippewa Valley Tech College, contact Jim Staatz 715/838-9108.

Additional classes will be added to the list through the end of March.

Regional Severe Weather Related Programs

March 4: Du Page: Advanced Spotter Training* 8 Hours Du Page Co, Illinois, Office of Emergency Management. \$20 early registration by 2/18/00, \$30 after 2/18 or at door. 1-630-682-7925. (The MASA auto caravan will attend this program.)

March 31: Severe storms and Doppler Radar conference* 3 Days Individuals \$50, Students \$85, Vendors \$250. Central Iowa National Weather Assoc (NWA) March 31, April 1st, April 2nd. University Park Holiday Inn in West Des Moines. 1-515-223-1800.

Fermi Lab Tornado and Severe Storms Seminar* Free: 2 programs, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Batavia, Illinois (About 30 miles West of Chicago). (The MASA auto caravan from Milwaukee is tentative.)

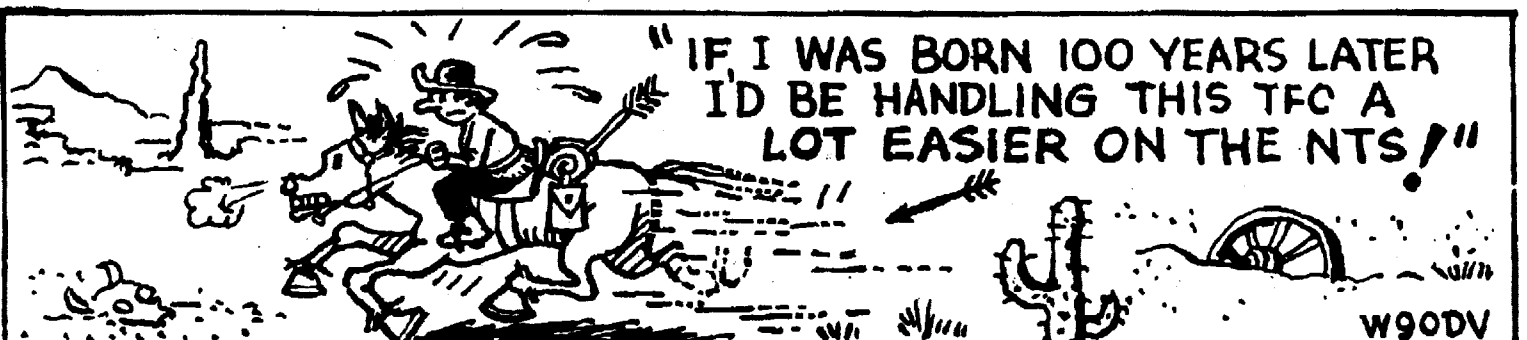
Updates will also be posted on the *Badger State Smoke Signals* web site at

<<http://www.bsos.org>>.

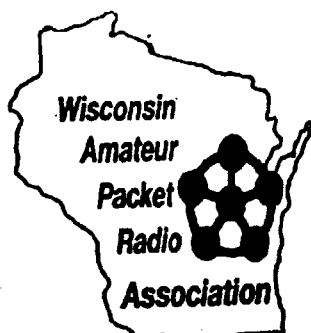
The BSSS Truly Trivial Quizzical Quiz

Be sure to check the April issue of BSSS; we'll tell you who won the loot in the February trivia quiz!

MODE: PONY EXPRESS



W90DV



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association
Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer
Ogema, WI 54459

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 453 Cottage Grove Avenue • Green Bay, WI 54304 • e-mail: kb9aln@juno.com

WAPR News - March, 2000

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

Welcome to March, and the interesting weather that sometimes finds us during this month. Long-time Wisconsin residents know how March gives us hope with it's warming temperatures and longer days - and then promptly brings us back to reality with at least one good snow! Then there are the winds - a natural enemy of hams who have a big investment in antennas. I hope your array survives March's "good kite-flying weather".

There is a little bit of news to report this month, mostly concerning the Spring WAPR meeting. Although we don't have the plans set just now, we are looking at holding our meeting during the Madison swapfest on April 9th. If there is no room available on-site, we will meet someplace convenient off-site. We will have the details of the meeting here next month, stay tuned, it's more reason to attend the Madison Fest.

Last month I asked for input concerning the behavior and performance of the packet network during our large Y2K response. So far, nothing heard. Which means that operators had no problems, or have not found the time to write about them. If you had packet experiences (good or bad) during the Y2K response, I would appreciate hearing about them so it can be shared with others. We'd all appreciate learning from your experiences.

One person I did hear from on another, completely different topic was Jim Jolin, WA9ARB in Sturgeon Bay. He tells me that he was able to successfully download the JNOS software mentioned in the series "Linux and Packet Radio". Of course, right after we printed the web site in the article, things changed and the RPM file is now on another web site. There are multiple RPM versions available, for Red Hat Linux versions 5.0, 6.0, and 6.1. Look for them here: <http://www.hi8gn.dynip.com/>

Jim reported to me that his first attempt did not go all that well, for some reason he received nothing but garbage on the screen, instead of downloading the file onto disk. However, he did try it a day or two later with success. Perhaps there was a problem at the site? In any event, you may wish to try again if you have problems with the site.

He also reports he did get the rpm file installed, and is now looking at documentation so that he can get it set up the way he wants. A reminder, the doc package is at: <ftp://pc.usl.edu/pub/ham/jnos>

his is a zipped file that is named according to JNOS version. The latest rpm file at the HI8GN site is JNOS version 1.11e, so get the file named for that version. The file can be unzipped in MS-DOS (with PKUNZIP version 2.04g) or Linux (with unzip, not gzip). It can be read with any document reading program that handles ASCII text files (such as LIST in MS-DOS or "less" in Linux). There are also Microsoft Word "doc" files on there, if you wish to use that for your reading.

This month sees the start of a new mini-series. This will concentrate on how packet radio works - the actual mechanics. We will define and explain the AX.25 protocol, which is the center of our packet radio world, so to speak. We'll begin with an explanation of what a protocol is and why we need one. It will be written for non-techies, I do hope you find it interesting and educational.

That's all for news this month. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

AX.25 and Packet Radio

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

This series of articles will discuss, in detail, the inner workings of the AX.25 protocol that we use for Amateur Packet Radio. Many packet operators at least know that we use it, and beyond that, little else.

Don't let this scare you - we will be looking at it from a non-technical person's view. We will assume you operate packet radio, but usually call someone else up for help when you have problems. This series may not help you get your system fixed when it is not operating, but it certainly will help you to understand what is (or is not) going on with your packet station.

What is a Protocol, and Why Do We Need It?

Regular readers of this space may recall the standard definition of the term "protocol", as it relates to us. Here is a good definition:

"One standardized method of communication between two computers"

OK, so we know that. But what exactly does this mean? Well, let's look at packet radio as an example. You have different equipment than your packet friends and they will probably have different equipment than others. We often have differing TNCs, computers, radios, and software. A protocol allows all of this different computing equipment and software to talk to each other. They all use the same digital code and format to represent certain information. Here's an interesting example.

Let's say we have two armies from different countries fighting a common enemy in battle. They have no voice contact, they speak different languages, use different armament, and of course, have different uniforms. Now we have to figure out how to coordinate their activities against the common enemy. Obviously, if these two armies can't communicate, they will likely be unable to defeat the enemy army.

Prior to battle, the leaders of both armies agree on a system of flags that are waved in a certain sequence to designate certain events or instructions. For example, a red flag waved in circles may mean that the enemy is attempting to surround one of the forces. A black flag waved to the left may be an instruction to move to the enemy's left flank. There are a few more examples we could use, by now you should get the idea.

The armies have agreed on a common method of communication, the flags, with certain coloring and movements indicating certain things. This is a prearranged communications protocol. The armies represent the computers wishing to share information, the flag wavers are analogous to the TNC and radio, and the prearranged sequences can be compared to the AX.25 protocol. We need the protocol for the same reason that the armies do - we would have no way of coordinating our activities if there was no prearranged communications protocol in place.

Of course our packet radio mission does not involve battles (or at least let's hope it doesn't), our activities would not be possible if we did not have some common method that allows different computers and other equipment to communicate.

How Did AX.25 Come To Be?

Packet Radio did not appear in Amateur Radio first - it had it's origins as a wireless method to connect computers as part of the Defense Agency Advanced Research Projects group that developed the basis for the Internet. Later, Canadian hams in the Vancouver, British Columbia area started working on an amateur version of computer-to-computer communications. They used what became known as the "Vancouver Amateur Digital Group Protocol", VADG for short. While it did allow direct computer-to-computer communications, it was only the first version and did not allow for digipeating and "Broadcast" packets to be sent. You will still hear hams that were in on the very birth of packet wax nostalgic when mentioning this protocol, performance is said to be superior to AX.25.

Shortly thereafter, U.S. hams got the go-ahead to experiment with computer-to-computer communications and started in on developing a different protocol, one that addresses the issues of digipeating, networking, and broadcast packets. As a basis for their work, they looked toward modifying an existing communications protocol rather than starting from the ground up. After all, they were anxious to explore this new mode of communication, and time was not on their side.

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ HOME PHONE: (____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME BBS: _____ FREQ: _____ (Listing your home BBS is important)

Your HOME BBS should be a full service BBS, not your TNC's mailbox.

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: _____ DAY _____ NIGHT _____ 24HRS

I OPERATE A: _____ DIGIPEATER WITH ALIAS OF: _____

_____ FULL SERVICE BBS

PRIMARY PACKETINTEREST/EXPERTISE IS: _____

YES I want to receive Badger State Smoke Signals and I understand that part of my dues goes to pay this subscription. cost \$20.00

NO I do not wish to receive Badger State Smoke Signals as a part of my WAPR membership. Cost \$15.00

COMPLETE and return this form with your check or money order - \$15.00 membership only or \$20.00 membership and Badger State Smoke Signals. made payable to W.A.P.R. to:

Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer
W5000 SR 86
PO Box 558
Ogema, WI 54459

Hams looked toward the existing X.25 protocol that was designed by Bell laboratories and used by AT&T. This protocol was used by computers in their switching network for specific purposes for a time. The inner workings of it made for an easier adaptation for radio use than some other protocols that were investigated.

Basically, they added parts to the protocol that amateurs needed, like call-sign headers, digipeating capability, and the ability to call "CQ" and be seen by others. This is how AX.25 was born, adaptation of an existing protocol that was not specifically designed for a radio environment.

Changes to AX.25

AX.25 has not remained as it was originally constructed - it has undergone a few revisions. These were mostly done in an effort to provide enhanced performance or new capabilities.

There have been two major versions of AX.25, versions one and two, with a few additional minor revisions made for specific purposes. The most recent revision reduced the maximum number of digipeaters from 8 to 3. This was done because simple digipeating is not very effective, and network nodes have become commonplace. This means that there is less need for digipeaters, hence, fewer allowed in the protocol. The same revision allows for Flexnet and APRS modes of operation.

While these changes are reasonable and worthwhile, there is talk of revising it once more, although it has not gone beyond the talking stage. One thing that some users would like to see is AX.25 with "Forward Error Correction" (FEC). Operators who have used AMTOR may recognize this term, it simply means that the sent packet signal has additional data in it that will help the receiving station correct any decoding errors, should there be any. Currently, an entire packet must be resent if it is not decodeable. This would allow partial packet resends, if any. The hope is to greatly speed up computer-to-computer communications.

Some say that AX.25 sorely needs this capability. In the coming parts of this series, we will explore the details of how AX.25 allows your computers to communicate, and point out why Forward Error Correction may be one worthwhile revision to the AX.25 protocol.

Be sure to join us in this exploration next month. Until then, 73 from Andy.

THE TEST POINT

(continued from page 3)

PEWAUKEE, WI (ARRL/VEC)

First Saturday on month school is in session. Exams held at Waukesha County Technical College Science Building. WCTC is on Highway JJ off Hwy 16 from the East I-94 and Hwy T from West I-94 just north of GE Medical Systems. Handicapped parking is at the rear of the building. Tests start at 9 a.m. and registration ends at 10 a.m. Contact: Al Johnson, AA7CS, (920) 568-0836; Roger Bradley, AA9OJ, (262) 691-3089 or SEWFARS Repeater club c/o Jam Lazachek, KF9GG (262) 650-0724.

HUDSON, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: St. Croix Valley AR Testing Col. Time: Call for time and walk-in info, Contact: Gregory Miller (715)386-9857 Location: St. Croix County Emergency, Government Center by jail, Carmichael Rd. lower level, Hudson, WI 54016. (Information tnx ARRL Web site)

FRIENDSHIP, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: Adams County ARC. Location: Adams-Columbia electric Cooperative (Community Room), 410 E. Lake St., Friendship, WI 53934. Contact: Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, (608) 565-6533. kb9eqi@iname.com

HAMFEST EXAMS

Cedarburg WI - ORC Hamfest
Eau Claire WI - ECARC Hamfest
Green Bay WI - ARES Hamfest
Hayward WI - Hayward Hamfest
Kaukauna WI - Swapfest
Manitowoc WI - Lakeshore Hamfest
Oak Creek WI - SMARC Hamfest
Racine WI - Racine Hamfest
Rhineland WI - NWARC Swapfest
Rockford IL - RARC Hamfest
Rothschild WI - WVRA Hamfest



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Leonard Wagner, N9XJG, Secretary
E10262 Hootowl Drive • Baraboo, WI 53913



The February 1, 2000 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called to order at 7:43 by club vice-president and acting secretary Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ. The January 4 minutes were accepted as published in the Badger State Smoke Signals. Bill Klinkner, N9KXX gave the treasurer's report (we have money and plan on spending same).

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Guest Tom Fleming, N9SZF, Madison passed on several items of interest to the club - (1) MARA's holiday party will be held Monday February 7 at the Old Country Buffet on East Washington, Madison (2) hamfest will be in Stoughton (3) he talked about insurance (got Bill's interest) (4) encouraged local clubs to get involved and do their own training (5) asked for help with an APRS network site south of the hills in Lodi for the Circus train (6) and talked about a letter of intention from the club to use the 147.315 repeater as a back-up during skywarn. Bill Klinkner suggested that topic (#6) be tabled for the next meeting. There was a general discussion on the

status of the repeater. if it goes down, Brad Pointon asked that he or Jim Paul be sent an e-mail so they can check out in a timely manner.

Buck Night winner was Bill Hommel, who was not present to win. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday March 7, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. room 18, Baraboo Civic Center.

Following members & guests were present:

David Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Ken Johnson	K9DEG	Manomanie
Tom Weeden	WJ9H	Madison
Tom Fleming	N9SEF	Madison
Jim Paul	N9LKY	Baraboo
Brad Pointon	KB9VMC	Baraboo
Maurey Gurgel	KA9TBU	Reedsburg
Art Kleefisch	W9WSS	Baraboo
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City
Anna Klinkner	N9PQL	Sauk City
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg

MN

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)

TESTING: Third Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. Contact: Dave Harrell, K0BTE (612) 459-8678 Test Site: Cottage Grove fire Station 8641 80th ST., S. Cottage Grove, MN. The times and places listed above are the usual time and place for each VE team. Occasionally, sessions are canceled or changed. It is a good idea to call ahead confirm the test time and place.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to kebnetter@palacenet.net.

You know you've been RTTY contesting too long when...

1. The phone rings and you press F2.
2. You know what TOOAWT means.
3. You believe that the software capital of the world Rhode Island.
4. Your dog is named Baudot.
5. You think the world would be a better place everyone used unshift-on-space.
6. You know how to spell "Ortgiesen".
7. You suspect your transceiver can do CW and SSB but you can't prove it.
8. You are unaware that oscilloscopes have horizontal sweep mode.
9. Your family crest is a pair of crossed ellipses. at the most telling of all:
10. Your kids are named Mark and Space.

73, Bill W9OL

South Milwaukee, WI - SMARC Hamfest
Stevens Point, WI - CWRA Swapfest
Waukesha WI - KMRA Swapfest
Waukesha WI - Midwinter Swapfest
Dubuque IA - Hamfest

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

DUBUQUE, IOWA

Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, N0KAX, 2145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

ROCKFORD/LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail WB9QYV@aol.com

MINNESOTA TEST INFORMATION

From The Ground Wave, Saint Paul Radio Club

Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) TESTING: First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m. Contact: Ed VanCleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108 Test Site: St. Paul Technical College 235 Marshall Ave. St Paul, MN

Anoka Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. Contact: Craig Johnson, AA0ZZ (612) 483-3143 Test Site: Blaine City Hall 9150 Central Ave NE Blaine, MN Bloomington Office of Emergency Management

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)

TESTING: Fourth Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. Contact: Dan Royer, KE0OR (612) 888-9756 Test Site: Fire Station No. 1 94th St. & Nicollet Avenue S. Bloomington, MN

Valley Amateur Radio Club (VARC)

TESTING: Second Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. Contact: Bill Martin, A10D (612) 432-0438 Test Site: Hayes Community Center 14601 Hayes Road Apple Valley, MN

W5YI Group

TESTING: Third Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. Contact: Dave Ranney, N0AXL (612) 542-2553 Test Site: Eden Prairie Library 479 Eden Prairie Drive Eden Prairie,

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SWAPFESTS



**28th ANNUAL MIDWINTER
SWAPFEST**
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CENTER
WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN
SATURDAY
JANUARY 8, 2000

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Phillip A. Bogucki, KB9KEE
Milwaukee
Christopher D. Molek, KB9GTX
Richland Center

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**HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!
MADISON SWAPFEST**

April 9, 2000

Mandt Community Center
400 Mandt Parkway • Stoughton, WI
Doors open at 8 a.m.

Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY
P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

**SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SWAPFEST 00**

July 8, 2000

(Held every July)

American Legion Park

Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI

(414) 762-3235

P. O. Box 102

Extension: Ask for Verne

South Milwaukee, WI 53172

SEWFARS SWAPFEST

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SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2000

8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Setup Starts at 6:00 A.M.

For more information, call (414) 835-7035

LAKESHORE HAMFEST

AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST

Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys 42-151 and I-43 on City Highway R

Saturday, May 13, 2000

For more information, call:

Red, N9GHE • (920) 84-3733

Dick, N9QFY • (920) 682-9264

ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

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HAMFEST Y2K

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Sunday, March 19

Jefferson County Fairgrounds

tricountyarc@globaldialog.com

TCARC 413 S. Main Street

Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

920-563-8740

Evenings



NSRCfest and LAMARfest
March 26th, 2000

Lake County Fairgrounds / Grayslake, Illinois
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www.ns9rc.org (847) 291-4160 jaf@lwt.net

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

W9EAU HAMFEST

Saturday, June 10, 2000

For Information Contact:

Jim Staatz KG9MV at 715-838-9108

P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867

kg9mv@ecol.net http://www.ecarc.org

Racine Megacycle Club

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Racine, WI 53401

Phone: 262-562-6762

E-Mail: w9udu@w9udu.org

Contact us or keep
checking our web
site for details on
upcoming events.



Ozaukee Radio Club
**22ND ANNUAL RADIO AND
COMPUTER SWAPFEST**
Saturday, May 6, 2000

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center
Intersection of Highway 60 and County I
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222
Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club
1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024

Circus City Swapfest

Sponsored by The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Saturday August 12, 2000 • 7 am - Noon
Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI

Vendors • Concessions
Camping • Free Parking
Tail Gate Area

\$4 - Advanced
\$5 - At Gate
8 Foot Tables - \$5

Steve Schulze, N9UDO
(608)358-2313/358-4777
<http://members.baraboo.com/seeschulze/hamfest.htm>

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX
(608)643-6908/643-6453

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 22, 2000 • 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street
Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT:

Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Ave.

715-665-2374
Knapp, WI 54749

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BP-282 for Radio Shack; PB-34 NiMH & PB-13 NiMH for Kenwood; EBP-22 NiMH for Alinco;
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